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a noticeable character would scarcely have been overlooked or omitted from the description, had it existed, I deem our plant worthy of specific distinction; and, partly from the dried specimens, but more from full notes and colored sketches by Miss Banning, who discovered and communicated the specimens, I have drawn up the following description :

**POLYPORUS (MERISMA) LACTIFLUUS.**—Pilei growing from a common tuberiform base, variously lobed, confluent or imbricated, sometimes imperfectly infundibuliform, six to ten inches broad, subtomentose or pubescent, whitish, marked with broad ferruginous or subochraceous zones, rough with slight radiating ridges, the margin thick, obtuse, sometimes flexuous; flesh white, firm, hard when dry, and exuding freely a milky juice where cut when fresh; pores medium size, unequal, irregular, often angular or flexuous, decurrent, white, at first short with thick dissepiments, then longer with thin but entire dissepiments; spores globose, rough, .0003—.00035 of an inch in diameter. Old stumps. Near Baltimore, Md. M. E. Banning.

**EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.**—*Ascomycetella quercina*, Pk.—Fig. 1. Leaf of black oak bearing the fungus. A. The conidial form of the fungus. B. The ascigerous form of the fungus. Fig. 2. A tuft of the conidial form magnified. Fig. 3. A stem with six of its tufts of conidia still attached, x 400. Fig. 4. Vertical view of a tuft of conidia, x 400. Fig. 5. Side view of a tuft of conidia, x 400. Fig. 6. A tuft of conidia pressed apart, showing the separated conidia, x 400. Fig. 7. A cluster of asci and their receptacle, magnified. Fig. 8. A single ascus containing immature spores, x 400. Fig. 9. Two free immature spores, x 400. Fig. 10. Two free mature spores, x 400.

#### § 46. Some New Species of North American Fungi.\*

By J. B. ELLIS and H. W. HARKNESS, M.D.

**SPHAERONEMA CAPILLARE**, E. & H.—Perithecia capillary, black, 1" high, slightly enlarged at the base and also at the apex; terminal globule pale; stylospores cylindric, obtuse, more or less bent or curved, with several transparent nuclei, .001'—.0015'x.0015'—.002'.

On bark of chestnut logs, Bethlehem, Pa., October.

**SPORIDESMIUM RAUI**, E. & H.—Tufts suborbicular, scattered or subconfluent, salmon-colored, minute; conidia obovate, composed of many compacted, partly transparent cells, with a large hyaline vesicle at the base, about .0015' long, with the basal cell, and .0007'—.0008' wide. Differs from *S. moriforme*, Pk., only in color.

On bark of an old grape-vine, Bethlehem, Pa., November, 1880. E. A. Rau.

**MYTILINIDION CALIFORNICUM**, E. & H.—Perithecia conchiform, .035' long, faintly striate; lips closely compressed at first, at length partially open; asci clavato-cylindric, .0017'x.0003'; sporidia biseriate, oblong-fusiform, yellowish, triseptate, sometimes slightly constricted at the septum, .0005'—.0006' long.

On foliage of *Sequoia gigantea* ("Big Trees"), California. H. W. Harkness.

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\*Continued from page 28.

SPHAERIA CONSOCIATA, E. & H.—Perithecia depressed-mammiform, .0015' diameter, with a short nipple-like, black ostium; asci narrow; sporidia fusiform, acute, 2-3-nucleate, .0004'—.0005' long, subhyaline or yellowish.

On foliage of *Sequoia gigantea*, California. H. W. Harkness.

Note: On page 27, under the description of *Fusarium Schweinitzii*, E. & H., for "Newfield, N. J.," read Bethlehem, Pa.

§ 47. **The Herbaria and Botanical Libraries of the United States. VI.**—The LAPHAM HERBARIUM.—The herbarium of the late Dr. I. A. Lapham was purchased by the State of Wisconsin and deposited in the State University at Madison. It embraces the whole range of the vegetable kingdom, with a similar treatment for all examples from the highest to the lowest, and constitutes an uniform herbarium of 24,000 specimens belonging to 8,000 species. The specimens of each species, with their labels, are placed loosely between folded sheets of white paper, a little larger than the standard size, and arranged alphabetically in colored genus-covers. The genera are distributed in strong portfolios, a portion alphabetically under the larger orders, and the remainder alphabetically under the several classes—without reference to orders. This arrangement answered well for a private herbarium, but is very inconvenient for general use. To make the collection more serviceable it is now being mounted on half sheets of heavy white paper, the specimens and labels fastened with white glue, and the sheets placed in manila genus-covers. There has been built especially for the collection, a cabinet with pigeon-holes in which the arrangement of the genera and orders will be systematic and in accordance with the latest information.

Dr. Lapham had the inborn love of preserving and accumulating valuable or curious objects which bespeaks the careful and assiduous collector. The specimens of his own gathering are exceptionally perfect and finely preserved. He indirectly did much to improve the quality of herbarium specimens in this country. Dr. Short, of Kentucky, and others also, often referred, in correspondence, to the great improvement in the specimens received, and attributed it to the good example set by Dr. Lapham, Wm. Oakes, of Ipswich, Mass., and a few others. The most active period of his collecting and exchanging was between 1830 and 1855. During this interval he made a very complete set of the plants of Wisconsin.

His earlier correspondence included nearly every American botanist and a large number of foreign ones. In many instances the correspondence was continued until interrupted by his death. Exchanges were arranged with most of his correspondents, and probably no specimens were purchased. Two very large additions, principally of European plants, were received from Dr. F. J. Jung and Dr. E. Wunderly, of Germany. A fine set of Australian plants was communicated by Fred. Mueller, of Melbourne. Many plants were received indirectly from the herbaria of Alex. Braun, of Carlsruhe, Germany, Sir Wm. Hooker, of England, and Gouan, of Montpellier, France. The largest American contributors were C. W. Short, of Kentucky, A. W. Chapman, of Florida, Wm. Oakes, of Massachusetts,